

REMARKS

Claims 7 - 11 are in the application. They will replace claims 1 - 6 which have been deleted from the application.

The specification has been amended to include appropriate headings.

Applicants respectfully submit that rewritten claims 7 - 11 avoid the indefiniteness problems pointed out by the Examiner.

Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C 112, second paragraph.

Claim 7 includes the subject matter of original claims 1 and 2. Accordingly, claim 7 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(e) as being unpatentable over Martins in view of Official Notice.

Applicants agree that claim 1 as originally filed is anticipated by the reference to Martins.

However, applicants respectfully submit that the features of claim 2 are not disclosed or suggested by the prior art of record.

The reference to Martins and the Official Notice do not disclose or suggest the configuration of the change-over device with inner claws which are provided for the pin end of the back-up roll, and with outer claws which are provided for the bearing unit. Consequently, the invention not only provides a coupling means, but the different claws and the way in which they are arranged provide an additional division of functions, namely, for pushing the bearing unit onto the roll pin, on the one hand, and for pulling the bearing unit from the roll pin, on the other hand.

Accordingly, for the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that claim 7 and the claims depending therefrom are patentable over the art of record.

Therefore, in view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with the application may be charged to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 11-1835.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: November 13, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on November 13, 2003.

By: F. Kueffner
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Date: November 13, 2003